(c) whether guidelines for employees in various chemical units have also been laid down by Government; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. ANJAIAH): (a) to (d). In the wake of Bhopal accident, various aspects and measures to be adopted to ensure safety and health of workers were considered in the meetings of Labour Secretaries and Labour Ministers of State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. On the basis of general consensus reached herein, a National Programme for Coordinated Action Plan for control of hazards and protection of occupational health and safety of workers in dangerous manufacturing processes has been drawn up. This action plan provides for specific and coordinated action to be taken by Central Government, State Governments, Employers and Worker Organisations. The National Action Plan has been forwarded to those agencies for initiating immediate action.

Recommendations of the Second Press Commission

1628. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main recommendations made by Second Press Commission about Official Secrets Act which are still under consideration; and

(b) the time by when a final decision thereon is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) The Second Press Commission's main recommendations regardnig the Official Secrets Act are as follows:—

Section 5 of the Official Secrets Act 1923 may be repealed and substituted by other provisions suited to meet the paramount need of national security and other vital interests of the States as well as the right of the people to know the affairs of the State affecting them. It is essential in our view to restrict the operation of Section 5 by prescribing the types of information which need protection from disclosure. These types or categories will necessarily be broad, but primarily it will be the task of the executive to determine whether a document falls under any of the specified categories. In this respect we think that the provisions of part-II of the British Freedom of Information Bill may be adopted with appropriate modifications and changes. The other provisions in the Official Secrets Act may be carefully examined by an expert body to see which of them deserve modification and thereafter those provisions could also be incorporated in the new legislation proposed.

(b) It shall take quite some time before a final decision on these recommendations is taken.

Imported edible oils supplied at subsidised rates

1629. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vanaspati manufacturers are using 60 per cent of imported oils supplied to them at subsidised rates;

(b) whether the imports of edible oils could be cut down substantially of using indigenous vegetable olis instead;

(c) whether with the use of indigenous oils, by vanaspati manufacturers the prices of vanaspati could be brought down benefiting millions; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government for using more indigenous vegetable oils?